

Rhine Christmas Markets



Tour Name: Rhine Christmas Markets

Tour Code: XAMB

Days: 8

Day 1	Amsterdam (D) Welcome to Amsterdam. Your luxury cruise is about to begin, raise your glass to the occasion at the evening's welcome reception.
Day 2	Amsterdam (B,L,D) Freechoice: Experience an iconic cruise of Amsterdam's canals or take to the streets with a local guide on a walking tour including a tasting of the Dutch favourite, herring. Or if you're feeling more active, join a guided cycling tour. Alternatively, discover charming Vlodendam before visiting the equally lovely village of Edam.
Day 3	Cologne (B,L,D) Stroll through Cologne on a guided city tour and get up close to the filigree twin towers of the famous cathedral. Enjoy free time and perhaps visit Cologne Cathedral markets, home to the largest Christmas tree in the Rhineland.
Day 4	Koblenz (B,L,D) One of Germany's oldest cities is turned into a Christmas paradise in the advent season, ideal for romantic strolls. Freechoice: Take a guided tour of Koblenz, which straddles two of Europe's most beautiful rivers. Six tranquil places in the old part of the city offer more than 100 glittering, festive, cottage-style stands and Lebkuchenherzen – traditional gingerbread hearts – to create a magical European Christmas experience. Alternatively, discover Cochem, a true medieval gem on the banks of the Moselle River. You'll feel as if you're stepping straight into a fairytale on a guided tour that culminates in a visit to the iconic Reichsburg Castle.
Day 5	Heidelberg (B,L,D) Freechoice: Uncover the fascinating history of Heidelberg, including a visit to its fine Renaissance castle. The castle ruins are among the most important Renaissance structures north of the Alps. Alternatively, enjoy an orientation tour of Heidelberg's quaint old town, followed by time at leisure. During your free time why not explore the city's Christmas markets. Heidelberg's Old Town radiates with Christmas spirit, walk past decorated wooden stalls, smell wafts of spice in the air from the warming glühwein and taste delicious delicacies such as traditional Gingerbread and the popular local treat of Germknödel – a spiced jam filled dumpling drizzled with a decadent vanilla sauce. Enrich Enjoy a private evening concert at a fabulous Baroque Palace in the region. It'll be an evening of grandeur unlike any other, and a chance to create memories that you'll cherish for a lifetime.
Day 6	Baden-Baden (B,L,D) Arrive in charming Baden-Baden, a popular spa town famous for its Roman baths. Freechoice: Join a guided tour of this picturesque town and learn of its rich heritage or take an active hike to Hohenbaden Castle for scenic views of the Black Forest. Alternatively, visit the Mercedes-Benz factory and learn about the fascinating history of this luxury brand.
Day 7	Strasbourg (B,L,D) Enjoy a guided tour of Strasbourg, where you'll discover La Petite France and stroll through the Old Town with its half-timbered houses and distinctive Alsatian winstubs. During your free time you might wish to explore the stalls of Strasbourg's Christkindelsmärik, one of the largest Christmas markets in Europe.
Day 8	Basel > Zurich (B) After breakfast, you'll be transferred to Zurich airport for your onward or homebound flight, taking a lifetime of wonderful memories back with you. Please note: Pre-release itinerary subject to change.